

B1

7. (Twice amended) The thermoformable sheet of claim 6 wherein the gas barrier layer is bonded to said foam polypropylene layers by means of tie layers of modified polyolefins.

B2

9. (Amended) The thermoformable multi-layer sheet of claim 8 wherein the heat-sealing layer comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene homopolymers; heterogeneous or homogeneous ethylene-(C₄-C₈)-alpha-olefin copolymers having a density ≤ 0.915 g/cm³; blends thereof with minor amount of polyethylene homopolymers; ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene-acrylic or methacrylic acid copolymers including ionomers; heterogeneous or homogeneous ethylene-(C₄-C₈)-alpha-olefin copolymers having a density from about 0.915 g/cm³ to about 0.930 g/cm³; blends thereof with ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers or ethylene-alkyl (meth)acrylate copolymers; ethylene-propylene-butene ter-polymers; and ethylene-alkyl acrylate-maleic anhydride ter-polymers.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. Such attachment is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-4, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 07-060816 ("JP '816").

JP'816 discloses a multilayer foamed sheet formed by coextrusion by "bringing a finely foamed sheet 2 into contact with at least one surface of a highly foamed sheet 1." (Abstract, page 1). The "expansion ratio of